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Statement submitted by World Jewellery Confederation, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council*

The Secretary-General has received the following statement, which is being circulated in accordance with paragraphs 30 and 31 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

* The present statement is issued without formal editing.

18-08581 (E) 080618

Please recycle

Statement

The World Jewellery Confederation (CIBJO) supports the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) through its work, with special emphasis on grass-roots projects in the jewellery and gemstone sectors. Involving several partners, it calls for transparency and inclusiveness, and strengthening local and global partnerships. Thus CIBJO has addressed areas of quality education (SDG 4), clean water and sanitation (SDG 6), energy (SDG 7), economic growth (SDG 8), sustainable cities and communities (SDG 11), sustainable consumption and production (SDG 12), life below water (SDG14) to name a few, understanding that all 17 SDGs are interrelated.

CIBJO's strategy has been developing educational programmes, initiate and/or supporting industry efforts, and creating tools and platforms for member organisations in their respective countries. The underlying premise of this approach is that progress will result from an aggregation of multiple grass-roots efforts, echoing the 2018 ECOSOC High-Level Segment theme "From global to local: supporting sustainable and resilient societies in urban and rural communities."

CIBJO runs series of educational programmes, with the goal of enhancing socially responsible business practices, and instilling an ethos of creating sustainable social and economic opportunity for all stakeholders along the chain of distribution. These include workshops on ecologically responsible aquafarming; ethical gold mining, diamond and coloured gemstone supply chain integrity, and grass roots sustainability projects. Since 2013 it has managed the programme in conjunction with the Italian Exhibition Group (IEG), a leading industry trade fair organiser.

Among the specialized tools and platforms that CIBJO created is the Jewellery Industry Greenhouse Gas Measurement Initiative, which helps companies understand, reduce and offset their carbon footprints.

CIBJO has supported grass-roots initiatives for small and medium-sized enterprises, including small-scale mining organisations meeting rigorous Fairtrade standards on working conditions, child labour, women's rights, clean technology, health and safety, organisational management, democratic decision-making, transparency, traceability and responsible environmental management.

A recent development has involved voluntary initiatives, such as the Jewellery Summit, which groups together individuals, companies and organisations to create programmes that, in time, may create significant and sustainable opportunities out in the field. One of these involves a rutilated quartz mine in Brazil that seeks to implement a model using natural resources as the foundation for sustainable development. Another is a Jewellery Development Index (JDI), which was sponsored by U. S. State Department, and now is housed at the University of Delaware.

CIBJO has also liaised with government and international organisations, such as the European Community and OECD, about developing grassroots jewellery and gemstone enterprises as means of achieving national and international development goals.

On June 2017, the CIBJO President joined a high-level delegation from the Republic of Fiji at the Oceans Conference at the United Nations in New York, to outline and promote the development of a sustainable pearl farming sector in Fiji. It includes responsibly managed marine pearling areas that also create income-generating opportunities for indigenous communities.

Through these initiatives and measuring the progress of local efforts, including indigenous needs, CIBJO has learned that building inclusive, resilient, competitive and sustainable communities is fundamental for achieving the SDGs by 2030.

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Statement submitted by Citizens' Coalition for Economic Justice, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council*

The Secretary-General has received the following statement, which is being circulated in accordance with paragraphs 30 and 31 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

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Please recycle

Statement

Have performed a citizens' movement for the land and property reform since 1989 and the urban reform since 1997, founded on the agendas: cultural cities; safety and pleasant environments; communitarianism and humanist communities — leading to Korean society, sustainable and resilient.

Recall a history of the People's Calamity Republic of Korea for the last two-decade years, seeing whereas the collapse of the Sungsoo Bridge (1994) and the Sampoong Department Store (1995); whereas the fire disaster of the Daegu Subway (2003); etc. with anxiety, whereas the maritime disaster of the Sewol Ferry DE the never-to-be-oblivious DIE on A.D. XVI KAL. MAI. MMXIV—AD DIEM, recordantor verae historia (Report: A/HRC/32/36/Add.2); quamvis (sic) mundus vult decipi, ergo decipiatur.

Take note of the New Urban Agenda (Habitat III: A/RES/71/256) and acknowledge its concepts, both "Inclusive City" and "Right to the City," a novelty that is enlightenment towards "City for All."

Strongly support the public concept of land and property and urban ownerships with this vision, and clarify missions and action plans as the following declaration:

1. Advocate Spatial Justice to ensure Right to the City that:

(a) Shares to everybody, taking ownership, neither specific individual nor enterprise exclusively, thereby expanding the public right and developing accessibility to urban open spaces for all;

(b) Expands urban open spaces, such as a public square and a neighborhood park, by widely implementing the policy of Privately Owned Public Open Space, an incentive policy that is to notify every stakeholder could participate in PPPs openly; that is to develop the space with the condition that every participant owns and uses this space but must share green spaces, as a part of the whole space, in exchange for Floor Space Index highly; thereby, that is to revitalize PPPs briskly;

(c) Improves a legal framework to evenly share the benefits of urban infrastructure for all classes, in particular, the lower-income class without discrimination.

2. Advocate urban reforms to achieve Inclusive City that:

(a) Arranges urban planning, administrative and financial, a development programme that is implemented not only to provide decent jobs or livelihoods for disadvantaged groups but also to protect microbusiness owners, thereby to promote shared growth in regional economy;

(b) Guarantees the human rights to housing, urban space and facility without prejudice based on nationality, sex, age, religion and economic status in the institutional framework;

(c) Highly improves welfare facilities in the frameworks, legal and institutional and without infringement, to ameliorate the human rights of children, women, disabilities, the elderly and infirm.

3. Advocate urban reforms for Environmentally Sustainable and Resilient City that:

(a) Improves disaster prevention facilities against calamities from climate change;

(b) Adopts sustainable energy policies on eco-friendly transportation, smart technology and urban structure;

(c) Conserves historical and cultural and environmental resources, including biodiversity.

4. Emphasize citizen participation in advocacy planning for urban reforms: the urban planning should be designed together with leading the governance frameworks, subnational and national, by the government we urge — to be citizen-centred.

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Statement submitted by Confédération des organisations familiales de l'Union européenne, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council*

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* The present statement is issued without formal editing.

18-08598 (E) 080618

Please recycle

Statement

"From global to local: supporting sustainable and resilient societies in urban and rural communities"

I. Introduction

COFACE Families Europe is a pluralistic network of civil society associations representing the interests of all families without discrimination. With 58 member organisations in 23 countries, COFACE represents more than 25 million families in Europe. It advocates at European level for policies of non-discrimination and equal opportunities between persons and between family forms, and specifically supports policies to increase equality between women and men. COFACE is supported under the European Union Programme for Employment and Social Innovation (EaSI).

For COFACE, building sustainable cities and communities (SDG 11) goes through, inter alia, building community-based support services for families both in urban and rural areas.

II. The role of community-based services to support sustainable and resilient societies

COFACE notes with concern the lack of adequate, accessible, community-based support services for persons with disabilities and with other support needs in most EU Member States, with special regard to person-centred schemes, like personal budget, or personal assistance. In some countries, there have been major cuts on personal assistance services due to the 2008 economic crisis and the recession. Family members are often filling the gap of social service provision, however, relying on their unpaid workforce is not a sustainable solution to create inclusive and prosperous societies in Europe. There is also a strong gender dimension: the results of our stocktaking study showed that two thirds of family carers are women. The lack of accessible care services for children, older persons, persons with complex needs, or with chronic illness often hinders the labour market inclusion of family carers. Furthermore, family carers are left without financial, or social recognition, social insurance, pension scheme, or real opportunities to return to the labour market.

In-home support services, in-home nursing care, respite, or personal assistance are preferred forms of support service provision by family carers and by their relatives with support needs. Members of COFACE Families Europe consider that the availability of such services would relieve family carers from the intensive care responsibilities and would ensure that their relatives can live independently in the community while receiving high-quality support. We expect the EU to continue investment in the transition from institutional care to community-based services across Member States in the next funding period 2021–2027.

III. Conclusions

The current situation, in which 80% of care work in Europe falls on family carers, who are left without adequate financial compensation, social rights, or a pension scheme, is not sustainable. Families play an important role in preventing the institutionalization of their relatives with support needs. Families should receive adequate support to enjoy their life in dignity both in urban and rural communities.

Investment in 21st century good quality, accessible community-based social services and family support measures, with special regard to work-life balance policies would contribute greatly to the social inclusion and wellbeing of all families.

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Statement submitted by Convention of Independent Financial Advisors, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council*

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18-08600 (E) 110618

Please recycle

Statement

To realize the ambitious vision of the 2030 Agenda, financial advisors play a critical role: empowering people — in urban and rural societies alike — to access knowledge, support, resources, and protections necessary to cultivate financial well-being in a manner which reduces the burden on governments and strengthens and promotes the prosperity, sustainability and resilience of society as a whole. With individual investors' needs in mind, CIFA focuses on promoting the highest professional and ethical standards among financial advisors. These efforts are strongly aligned with the holistic, integrated, and universal Sustainable Development Goals, which offer a roadmap for all sectors, including the financial sector, to work together to achieve a world where no one is left behind.

Economic growth, investment and entrepreneurship as engines of resilience and sustainability: Practical policies to shift from poverty eradication to wealth creation: CIFA views financial markets as critical players in the global effort to fight poverty. Inclusive capital markets can promote well-being and trust among all different sectors of society, thus increasing sustainability and resilience in all urban and rural communities. Entrepreneurship lies at the core of economic sustainable growth. The 2030 Agenda envisions a future of equality and inclusivity, which requires moving beyond simply eradicating poverty to proactively creating new forms of wealth. CIFA supports and encourages the adoption of smart policy measures to enhance financial well-being of rural and urban communities everywhere. As a foundation devoted to building ethical and productive relationships between financial advisors and clients, CIFA views a significant part of its responsibility to support individuals and their families to attain comfortable, healthy, independent lives without heavy reliance on other institutions. CIFA members strive to assist their clients in achieving financial security. Among impoverished communities, access to basic financial services can be a major transformational factor in lifting people out of poverty.

Strengthening ethics and the rule of law to promote sustainable and resilient societies: Harnessing entrepreneurship and economic growth to advance the 2030 Agenda's core objectives of sustainability and resilience cannot be accomplished without ensuring the solid societal foundations of rule of law and strong institutions. Achieving resilient societies in urban and rural communities, requires investing in stability, and ensuring the health and strength of key legal and institutional structures which are critical to sustainable economic development. Entrepreneurs are best able to thrive and contribute to societal resilience and sustainability, and investors are best able to put their resources to the most productive use, when operating in enabling environments with smart regulation, political and economic stability, as well as respect for the rule of law. Irregular or unduly burdensome taxation can also deter sustainable investment and undermine entrepreneurship, especially among medium, small, and micro-enterprises (MSMEs). Considerable commercial ramifications, such as unfavorable risk assessments by companies, result when there is weak rule of law. Governments benefit, and in turn societies can become more resilient and sustainable, better able to withstand market fluctuations and other economic shocks, when responsible and law-abiding businesses are fully supported and enabled to flourish. Ensuring governments support citizens to move out of informal sectors and assist their integration into the formal economy can have a profound multiplier effect on local economies, particularly in rural communities with less well-developed formal industrial activities. Ensuring appropriate regulatory frameworks are in place to enable economic development, respect intellectual property rights, and reduce legal barriers to women's full participation in the economy are a few critical measures that can lead to more open, inclusive, and productive markets, which in turn reinforces sustainability and resilience.

As a means of supporting the rule of law in the investment sector, the CIFA Charter has as its goal the definition of the fundamental and inalienable rights of the

investor, underlining the principles, both straightforward and permanent, of the investor so as to benefit from a legal framework which preserves private property and comprises goods resulting from the activities, be they personal property or intellectual, of the investor. The Charter aims to respects the legislation, traditions and customs of all the countries which ratify it, and can therefore be an important tool for building more resilient, sustainable societies.

Local authorities and public-private collaboration: While the 2030 Agenda needs to be implemented at the local level, driven by local priorities, local authorities cannot successfully achieve the Sustainable Development Goals on their own. Local governments need to engage the private sector, civil society and academia to translate the global goals into local realities, in coordination with national governments and global efforts. Integrated approaches to building sustainability and resilience at the local level have great potential impact.

The urban agenda, empowering rural communities: On the urban policy "Habitat in cooperation with the World bank has already capitalized on promoting economic growth, improving infrastructure, creating new jobs and making cities hubs attractive for youth". Sustainability and resilience-building in rural communities will depend in large part on innovative, collaborative approaches to adapting agricultural practices to ensure livelihoods and well-being are enhanced in the face of growing challenges such as the volatility of climate change, political instability in certain regions, and other major barriers to economic growth such as technology deficits, low incomes, poor farming practices, human rights abuses in global supply chains, soil degradation and other environmental pressures. Promoting sustainable development throughout corporate supply chains and empowering and supporting local farming communities should be complemented by transformational financial policies and practices, such as ensuring access to financial services and credit to smallholder farmers and enhancing financial literacy among impoverished communities.

Investing in education, skills, and training for long-term positive impact: The fastest path to reducing inequality and moving from poverty eradication to wealth creation is through investment by all sectors in high-quality education, skills, and training for youth, women, and other vulnerable or marginalized groups such as migrant or refugee workers. Addressing the demographic dividend, turning major risks of rapidly expanding youth populations into economic opportunities in developing markets, is critical to ensuring the Sustainable Development Goals are achieved. Noting that prejudice and discrimination is a major obstacle to entering the job market for many people, investors, companies, and governments alike should all promote strategies to promote diverse and inclusive workplaces where no one is left behind. For example, robust investment in opportunities for youth can stimulate a wide array of long-term positive outcomes. Initiatives such as mentorship programs, on-the-job training for youth workers, as well as access to credit, capital and mentorship for young entrepreneurs are all highly productive investments that will yield very positive long-term returns. In order to leave no one behind, marginalization should be fought through social policies that involve engagement of civil society organizations and the private sector. Best practices should increase resilience and empowerment of the most vulnerable people, providing them with dignity and economic security.

Advancing Responsible Business and addressing market short-termism to increase investments in sustainable development: Today's communities — both urban and rural — are highly interconnected. Business success is therefore dependent on the ability to understand the issues facing society as a whole and to adjust to the major political, economic and social forces of our time. CIFA embraces the concept of social responsibility as a core element of its ethical principles, but also embraces the shift towards social responsibility as a core driver of financial success. Considering that private financial flows supporting development have outpaced official development assistance, the financial sector has a clear growing interest and desire to help achieve

the SDGs, recognizing that they are truly universal and built upon shared values across various sectors. The financial sector has tremendous potential to support governments in promoting financing for sustainable development. Capital flows must be directed towards grass roots projects and opportunities which yield positive returns while also generating long-term value in a way which promotes resilient and sustainable communities.

Building trust across sectors — promoting partnerships for the goals: Trust is a critical cornerstone of promoting sustainable development and resilient societies. Multi-stakeholder partnerships and cross-sector dialogue should be scaled and enhanced to promote deepening of trust among all stakeholders to achieve a common vision of a world where no one is left behind. Public private partnerships which take the form of strategic alliances designed to pursue common objectives while also advancing the interests of all partners can be major engines of resilience and sustainability.

In this regard, CIFA will continue to actively partner with and support the work of the United Nations, raise awareness among its membership of the 2030 Agenda, and identify areas where its work can be leveraged to accelerate progress on the Sustainable Development Goals by helping to lift people everywhere out of poverty and into wealth. CIFA's activities will continue to focus on strengthening mutual trust among the general public, Governments and investors, and advocating for the highest ethical standards and professional practices in the investment industry.

From global to local: supporting sustainable and resilient societies in urban and rural communities, it is worth noting that while the "city" may be considered a valid laboratory where the freshest and, brightest and most innovative ideas for achieving the proper organization, sociability, business and invention that include each generation, community and neighbourhood, it fails to address the perennial problems of urban life, such as health, education, housing, infrastructure, energy, governance and so on. The "city" is also the place where great wealth and crushing poverty exist side by side. Cities are especially the most threatened by the march of robots. More importantly, the deindustrialization that rich countries have undergone through massive technological change has created a class of people who are economically left behind, a class that is rebelling against the liberal economic and political order. There cannot be economic growth when the social contract breaks or politics fail. As a consequence, local answers are needed, by politicians in particular, for global issues to be solved, and especially for the eradication of poverty that CIFA fully supports. Urbanization has essentially failed to deliver happiness to those attracted to cities with hopes of riches, while rural communities instead have the best potential to create equitable and sustainable development. Should urbanization be reversed? No. Rural development should be strengthened with appropriate policies and legislative coherence aimed at acknowledging the importance of small and medium enterprises to the whole economy.

Ideally, both urban and rural communities should cooperate for the common good: build a resilient economic and financial framework aimed at eradicating poverty across the globe. Let's retain that in its main activities, CIFA has connected with several SDGs goals such as those on: end poverty in all its forms (SDG1), equitable quality education (SDG 4), empower all women (SDG 5), decent work and economic growth (SDG 8), reduce inequalities (SDG 10), responsible consumption and production (SDG 12) and revitalize the global partnership (SDG 17). CIFA has committed to shift private finance towards sustainable development objectives. Following the spirit of the High-level Segment's theme CIFA delivers sustainable development outcome and at the same time demonstrates transparency and accountability to urban and rural communities alike.

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Statement submitted by Development of Humane Action Foundation, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council*

The Secretary-General has received the following statement, which is being circulated in accordance with paragraphs 30 and 31 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

* The present statement is issued without formal editing.

18-08601 (E) 080618

Please recycle

Statement

Development of Humane Action Foundation (DHAN) has been working with disadvantaged and deprived communities, largely women, both in rural and urban contexts for more than two decades in more than 12 states (provinces) in India. This statement is about DHAN's work in enhancing the resilience and sustainable development of local societies and the key elements of the enabling support have been captured.

These marginalized communities have been dispersed/disjointed and unorganised with little knowledge and understanding about the power of collective voice and action. In fact, this is the general scenario of larger erosion of local community action of poor families and their communities.

Keeping the long-term objective of the sustainable development of deprived rural and urban communities, DHAN has embarked on the approach of building self-reliant societies with intensive enabling process and framework, founded on the concept of Self Help and the mutuality. Stitching a network of Self Help Groups of women and their federations, with each federation comprising of 5,000 to 6,000 families through participatory planning of vulnerabilities and disabilities from social, financial and economic perspectives, a string of societies has been organised in rural and urban areas (slums). This institutional building process laid the foundation for a multifaceted enabling process to engender development.

Though women are fulcrum to the institutional building process, their families are the locus for the multifaceted developmental interventions to inculcate/appreciate the importance of building resilience first at the family level. Promoting and strengthening leadership and a robust governance of federations paved the way for the local communities taking responsibilities beyond families to look at and appreciate common good and assets such as the ecosystem for improving the quality of life. In other words, an effective demand stream at the local level emerged quite conscious of its responsibilities and rights — access to basic essential services including water, shelter/sanitation, financial services etc. The enabling process included building a "glocal" outlook, making them aware of the global developmental agenda — SDGs and connecting and relating with them, and contextualizing for the local communities. DHAN did a larger people symposium in 2015 to localize SDGs among all stakeholders focusing on the primary target groups of deprived communities.

Sustainability in a large part stems from building resilience. Social capital with the institutionalised processes has contributed to the social, financial and economic inclusion of societies, which is the cornerstone of resilience. The enhanced livelihood activities with risk covers through insurance services augment the resilience of communities. Collective action of societies brought economy of scale in accessing sanitation and renewable energy (particularly solar). Most noteworthy is the keen participation of local women organisations in protecting and contributing to the effective management of the ecosystem as is now happening in a river system in Madurai. Women Self Help Group federations have been able to interface with local municipal bodies and have their voices heard in prioritising and allocation of common resources (fiscal, monetary and physical).

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Statement submitted by FEMM Foundation, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council*

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* The present statement is issued without formal editing.

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Please recycle

Statement

The FEMM Foundation is a knowledge-based health program for women inspired by women's right to be informed participants in their own healthcare and to make voluntary decisions based on options, information, and understanding. The Foundation is dedicated to health education, medical research, and improving reproductive health care to advance women's health.

Sustainable cities (Goal 11) require the realization of all aspects of development. It is essential for cities to recognize the importance of health and to centre health services where they can be accessed by all or most and address public health issues through agencies. Resilient and safe cities are those in which the all-round health needs of their populations are met.

Providing in-depth, accurate medical information and treatment for women and girls has proven challenging. This is also an obstacle to the pursuit of sustainable living conditions for women and girls. Poor health can impact personal, social, and economic aspects of people's lives, leaving them isolated even in growing cities.

Women and girls comprise approximately half the population of the world, but remain more vulnerable to health problems due to both biological and social reasons. Women also often accept as normal symptoms such as irregular bleeding, pain, depression, mood swings, and weight gain, not realizing that these are often signs of underlying hormonal abnormalities. Even when women do seek medical care, most health care providers struggle to diagnose and treat them effectively.

These underlying conditions can affect women and girls' long-term overall health. They can also affect women and girls' ability to complete their education, engage in work, and plan their families, interfering with their ability to participate in all areas of their lives. Sustainable cities require health care that addresses previously underserved reproductive health needs for women and girls.

FEMM's researchers have rethought women's health. They have found that a woman's hormonal health is intrinsically linked with her overall health. They have developed better diagnostic criteria to identify conditions that are currently treated mainly at the symptomatic level and treat them at the roots.

FEMM's Medical Management program trains doctors to diagnose and treat reproductive health problems, with a holistic view of a woman's body that incorporates recent research on the complex hormonal interactions between different body systems. FEMM has developed innovative protocols that allow doctors to identify underlying problems with precision and treat them effectively. This medical support provides treatments that help women to live healthy lives.

Promoting a robust women's health system requires investment and empowerment of women to take charge of their reproductive and thus overall health. Inclusive, safe, resilient and truly sustainable cities are better rooted when they pay attention to the often overlooked needs of women, and consider that their families and societies depend on healthy, empowered women to thrive.

When people attain the highest level of health they can, they are able to thrive and partake in their communities, lowering poverty and helping make their cities sustainable. FEMM is ready to help address the often under-addressed health needs of women.